

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-31 (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for sharing a user's personal information with a merchant server so as to facilitate an e-commerce transaction in a networked computing environment, the method comprising:

- collecting personal information from a user of a computer network;
- storing the user's personal information in a server;
- associating, at the server, a session identifier with the user's personal information;
- receiving, at the server, a request from a merchant server for at least a portion of the user's personal information, wherein the request includes a session identifier;
- determining, at the server, that the received session identifier corresponds to the session identifier associated with the user's personal information; and
- sending, from the server, at least a portion of the user's personal information to the merchant server when the received session identifier corresponds to the session identifier associated with the personal information.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein associating, at the server, a session identifier with the user's personal information comprises:

- receiving, at the server, information that authenticates the user;
- generating, at the server, the session identifier in response to the server receiving the information that authenticates the user; and

associating, at the server, the generated session identifier with the user's personal information.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the information that authenticates the user comprises a username and password such that receiving, at the server, information that authenticates the user comprises receiving, at the server, a username and password.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 further comprising sending, from the server, the generated session identifier to a client computer being used by the user.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the personal information comprises credit card information such that storing the user's personal information in a server comprises storing credit card information.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 wherein sending, from the server, at least a portion of the user's personal information to the merchant server comprises sending partial credit card information to the merchant server such that the merchant server can solicit confirmation from the user that a credit card account associated with the credit card information should be used to perform the e-commerce transaction.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 wherein sending, from the server, at least a portion of the user's personal information to the merchant server comprises sending full credit card information to the merchant server such that the merchant server can perform the e-commerce transaction using the credit card information.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 further comprising:
receiving, at the server, a digital certificate from the merchant server; and

verifying the identity of the merchant server using the digital certificate.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the user's personal information includes one or more of the user's name, address, credit card information, telephone number, facsimile number, e-mail address, employer name, employer address, work telephone number, buying history, travel preferences, food preferences, medical information, and personal interests.

41. (Previously Presented) A device for sharing a user's personal information with a merchant server so as to facilitate an e-commerce transaction in a networked computing environment, the device comprising:

- means for collecting personal information from a user of a computer network;

- means for storing the user's personal information in a server;

- means for associating, at the server, a session identifier with the user's personal information;

- means for receiving, at the server, a request from a merchant server for at least a portion of the user's personal information, wherein the request includes a session identifier;

- means for determining, at the server, that the received session identifier corresponds to the session identifier associated with the user's personal information; and

- means for sending, from the server, at least a portion of the user's personal information to the merchant server when the received session identifier corresponds to the session identifier associated with the personal information.

42. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 41 wherein the means for associating, at the server, a session identifier with the user's personal information comprises:

- means for receiving, at the server, information that authenticates the user;

- means for generating, at the server, the session identifier in response to the server receiving the information that authenticates the user; and

means for associating, at the server, the generated session identifier with the user's personal information.

43. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 42 wherein the information that authenticates the user comprises a username and password such that the means for receiving, at the server, information that authenticates the user comprises means for receiving, at the server, a username and password.

44. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 42 further comprising means for sending, from the server, the generated session identifier to a client computer being used by the user.

45. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 41 wherein the personal information comprises credit card information such that the means for storing the user's personal information in a server comprises means for storing credit card information.

46. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 45 wherein the means for sending, from the server, at least a portion of the user's personal information to the merchant server comprises means for sending partial credit card information to the merchant server such that the merchant server can solicit confirmation from the user that a credit card account associated with the credit card information should be used to perform the e-commerce transaction.

47. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 45 wherein the means for sending, from the server, at least a portion of the user's personal information to the merchant server comprises means for sending full credit card information to the merchant server such that the merchant server can perform the e-commerce transaction using the credit card information.

48. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 41 further comprising:

means for receiving, at the server, a digital certificate from the merchant server; and
means for verifying the identity of the merchant server using the digital certificate.

49. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 41 wherein the user's personal information includes one or more of the user's name, address, credit card information, telephone number, facsimile number, e-mail address, employer name, employer address, work telephone number, buying history, travel preferences, food preferences, medical information, and personal interests.